

Turn Signal Physical Alert System

Cross Reference to Related Application (none)

Statement Regarding Fed R & D (none)

Background of the Invention

The invention discloses a turn signal physical alert system. This system is very simple in construction and can easily be installed. As is well known, a turn signal is a turn indicator whether a right turn or a left turn to be made by a driver of a vehicle. Also, as is well known, a turn signal indicates whether the driver of the vehicle intends to make a right or a left turn into another street or intends to change the lane to either the left or right lane. It is also well known that the turn signal lever cancels its engaged position once a turn has been made.

It also happens many times that the turn signal lever is not being canceled because the steering wheel has not been turned far enough in either direction to engage the canceling mechanism, which is located in the steering wheel column. In most cases the steering wheel has to be turned about 90° to activate the cancellation mechanism. This happens when the driver changes lanes because the steering wheel never turns more than 90°. It also can happen when the turn to be made into another street is a rather wide turn and the steering wheel therefore does not execute a turn of more than 90°.

If for any of the above reasons, the turn signal does not cancel, the continuing flashing of the turn signal light is rather annoying or disturbing for the driver following the vehicle having the turn signals on since that driver cannot comprehend the intentions of the driver ahead.

It is also well known that that turn signals, when engaged, make a clicking sound to remind the drive to turn the signal off.

In many instances the turn signal clicker is rather faint and cannot be heard. In other instances the road noise obscures the sound especially if the radio is on in the vehicle. Quite a few drivers are hearing impaired and can hear the clicker only very faintly or not at all. The clicker itself may be defective due to age and does not emit a very strong sound.

Brief Summary of the Invention

Because of all of the above, the applicant has created a system that will alleviate all of the above noted problems. The system includes a reminder to the driver that when a turn signal is left on and engaged, the driver will receive a physical alert that cannot be ignored. The physical alert is a tamping within the seat that is physically felt by the driver. It is also very possible to create an audible signal which is louder than the clicker sound coming from the turn signal system but this louder signal may not be enough to overcome the normal signal.

Brief description of the Drawing

Fig. 1 is a top view of the schematic circuitry of the alert system.

Detailed description of the Invention

Referring to Fig. 1 there is shown the standard turn signal arrangement wherein 2 is the turn system lever and when turned on either activates the right R or the left L turn signal flasher lights (not shown). When the turn signal is engaged it will activate a second timer and a transfer module 4. The steering wheel diodes 5 are applied to a 30 second circuit 7 by way of a transfer relay 6. At the end of a 30 second period the transfer relay 6 will operate to apply pulses to the driver's seat module 8. The pulses received in the cushion 10 of the driver's seat 9 will definitely alert the driver of a turn signal that needs to be turned off. That is, the tamper 12 of